

REMARKS

This application is amended in a manner to place it in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

Status of the Claims

Claims 13-16 and 24-27 have been cancelled without prejudice, as Applicants reserve to the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to their subject matter.

Claims 1-12 and 17-23 are amended as to form.

Claims 28-31 are new and are directed to narrow ranges previously recited in claims 5, 18-20 respectively.

Claims 1-12 and 17-23 remain in this application.

Election/Restriction

Responsive to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect Group I, claims 1-23, drawn to a milking device, without traverse.

Responsive to the election of species requirement, Applicants elect Species 5, directed to the material or combination of materials resistant to chlorine, ozone and to UV irradiation and thermal oxidation as shown in claim 17.

Conclusion

A favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Should there be any matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our credit card which is being paid online simultaneously herewith for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

/Robert A. Madsen/
Robert A. Madsen, Reg. No. 58,543
209 Madison Street, Suite 500
Alexandria, VA 22314
Telephone (703) 521-2297
Telefax (703) 685-0573
(703) 979-4709

RAM/jr